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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Tomori TANAKA

: GROUP: To be Assigned

SERIAL NO: 09/668,161

FILED: September 25, 2000

: EXAMINER: To be Assigned

FOR: APPARATUS, METHOD AND

COMPUTER READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM FOR...

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 53, 54, 55, 76, 78, 79, 81, 82, 85, 86, 88, and 89, as follows:

10 --53. (Amended) The image processing method as defined in claim 39, wherein said image processing method further comprises the steps of:

an image data compression process of compressing said image data before memorizing said image data in said [primary] secondary memory device; and

an image data decompression process of decompressing said image data after reading out said image data from said secondary memory device by said image data reading-out device.

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